

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/788,761

Applicant(s)

DUBIN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Christopher E. Mahoney

2851

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed February 27, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-44.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Regarding claim 1, the prior art does not teach a dimming system in a projection display comprising, in combination with the additionally recited elements, a first non-absorbing polarizer receiving light from a light source and passing at least a portion of the light having a first selected polarization; a variable polarization rotator receiving the light and selectively rotating the polarization of the received light; and a second non-absorbing polarizer, the second non-absorbing polarizer receiving the selectively rotated light from the variable polarization rotator and passing a first portion of the light having a second selected polarization to display optics in the projection display and passing a second portion of the light to the first heat absorber. Regarding claim 16 the prior art does not teach a dimming system in a projection display comprising, in combination with the additionally recited elements, a first heat absorber; a first polarizing beam splitter, receiving light from a light source and passing a first portion of the light to a first clean up polarizer, and passing a second portion of the received light to the first heat absorber; a variable polarization rotator receiving the first portion of light from the first clean up polarizer and selectively rotating the polarization of the received light; and a second polarizing beam splitter receiving the selectively rotated light from the variable polarization rotator and passing a first portion of the selectively rotated light having a first polarization to display optics in the projection display, and passing a second portion of the selectively rotated light to the second heat absorber. Regarding claim 22, the prior art does not teach a dimming system in a projection display comprising, in combination with the additionally recited elements, a first polarizer receiving light from a light source and passing at least a portion of the light having a first polarization; a pair of variable polarization rotators

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having substantially opposite angular variation receiving the light; a second polarizer receiving the selectively rotated light from the variable polarization rotator. For example, De Vaan (U.S. Patent No. 5,486,884) teaches a first PBS and a pair of polarizing rotators which could be positioned in a selective manner. However the second polarizer, part of the screen, does not pass a first portion of the light having a second polarization to display optics in the projection display. Regarding claim 33 the prior art does not teach a dimming system in a projection display comprising, in combination with the additionally recited elements, a first non-absorbing polarizer receiving light from a light source and passing at least a portion of the light having a first polarization; a variable polarization rotator receiving the light from the first non-absorbing polarizer and selectively rotating the received light, wherein the variable polarization rotator is configured such that different spatial portions of the rotator can selectively rotate the polarization of the received light in different amounts; a second non-absorbing polarizer receiving the light from the variable polarization rotator and passing a first portion of the light having a second selected polarization display optics in the projection display.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher E. Mahoney whose telephone number is (571) 272-2122. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5PM, Monday-Thursday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-2258. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Mahoney', is positioned above the printed name.

Christopher E Mahoney
Primary Examiner
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